

Claims 1-30 (Cancelled).

31. (Currently Amended) A method for interfacing with a multi-level data structure comprising the steps of:

selecting a concept object stored in the multi-level data structure;

displaying a first image in a central region of an area, the first image comprising the selected concept object;

displaying one or more second images above the first image, each second image comprising a parent concept object of the selected concept object;

displaying a first symbol along a geometrical ray originating from the first image and illustrating an association between each second image to the first image;

if the selected concept object has one or more child concept objects, displaying one or more third images below the first image, each third image comprising one of the child concept objects of the selected concept object, and displaying a second symbol along a geometrical ray originating from the first image and illustrating an association between each third image and the first image; and

if the selected concept object has one or more lateral concept objects, displaying one or more fourth images along a geometrical ray originating from the first image and, each fourth image comprising a lateral concept object of the selected concept object, and displaying a third symbol illustrating an association between each fourth image and the first image.

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32. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 31, further comprising the steps of:

selecting a new concept object from one of the selected concept object, one or more parent concept objects, one or more children concept objects, and one or more lateral concept objects;

displaying a fifth image comprising the selected new concept object;

displaying one or more sixth images, each sixth image comprising a parent concept object of the selected new concept object;

displaying a fourth symbol illustrating an association between each sixth image and the fifth image;

if the selected new concept object has one or more child concept objects, displaying one or more seventh images, each seventh image comprising a child concept object of the selected new concept object, and displaying a fifth symbol illustrating an association between each seventh image and the fifth image; and

if the selected new concept object has one or more lateral concept objects, displaying one or more eighth images, each eighth image comprising a lateral concept object of the selected new concept object, and displaying a sixth symbol illustrating an association between each eighth image and the fifth image.

33. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 31 wherein the first, second, third and fourth images comprise text strings.

34. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 31 wherein the first image is highlighted.

35. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 31 wherein the first, second, third and fourth images, and the first, second and third symbols are displayed within a first viewing area.

36. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 35 further comprising the step of displaying one or more attributes of the selected concept object.

37. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 36 further comprising the step of displaying one or more details of the selected concept object.

38. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 37 further comprising the step of displaying one or more terms associated with the selected concept object.

39. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 38 further comprising the step of displaying a work area for temporarily storing terms.

40. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 35 further comprising the steps of:

selecting either a microglossary panel, a term facet panel, a relations facet panel or a term phrase editor panel; and

displaying the selected panel in a second viewing area.

41. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium having computer executable instructions for performing the steps recited in Claim 31.

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42. (Currently Amended) A system for interfacing with a multi-level data structure comprising:

a computer;

a display communicably connected to the ~~display~~computer;

a memory communicably connected to the computer for storing the multi-level data structure;

a computer program resident on the computer for:

selecting a concept object stored in the multi-level data structure,

displaying a first image comprising an alphanumeric string representing the selected concept object on the display,

displaying one or more second images on the display, each second image comprising an alphanumeric string representing a parent concept object of the selected concept object and displaying a first symbol on the display illustrating an association between each second image and the first image,

if the selected concept object has one or more child concept objects, displaying one or more third images on the display, each third image comprising an alphanumeric string representing a child concept object of the selected concept object and displaying a second symbol on the display illustrating an association between each third image and the first image, [[and]]

if the selected concept object has one or more lateral concept objects, displaying one or more fourth images on the display, each fourth image comprising an alphanumeric string representing a lateral concept object of the selected concept object and displaying a third symbol on the display illustrating an association between each fourth image and the first image; and

receiving input for one of modifying, removing, and creating relationships between concept objects.

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43. (Previously Presented) The system as recited in Claim 42 wherein the computer program:

selects a new concept object from one of the selected concept object, the one or more parent concept objects, one or more children concept objects, and one or more lateral concept objects;

displays a fifth image on the display comprising the selected new concept object;

displays one or more sixth images on the display, each sixth image comprising a parent concept object of the selected new concept object;

displays a fourth symbol on the display illustrating an association between each sixth image and the fifth image;

if the selected new concept object has one or more child concept objects, displays one or more seventh images on the display, each seventh image comprising a child concept object of the selected new concept object, and displays a fifth symbol on the display illustrating an association between each seventh image and the fifth image; and

if the selected new concept object has one or more lateral concept objects, displays one or more eighth image comprising a lateral concept object of the selected new concept object, and displays a sixth symbol on the display illustrating an association between each eighth image and the fifth image.

44. (Previously Presented) The system as recited in Claim 42 wherein the first, second, third and fourth images comprise text strings and wherein the first image is highlighted.

45. (Previously Presented) The system as recited in Claim 42 wherein the computer program displays the first, second, third and fourth images, and the first, second and third symbols within a first viewing area on the display.

46. (Previously Presented) The system as recited in Claim 45 wherein the computer program displays one or more attributes of the selected concept object in a second viewing area on the display wherein the attributes comprise at least one of a billing code and a medical code.

47. (Previously Presented) The system as recited in Claim 46 wherein the computer program displays one or more attributes of the selected concept object in a third viewing area on the display wherein the attributes comprise at least one of a billing code and a medical code.

48. (Previously Presented) The system as recited in Claim 47 wherein the computer program displays one or more terms associated with the selected concept object in a fourth viewing area on the display.

49. (Previously Presented) The system as recited in Claim 48 wherein the computer program displays a work area for temporarily storing terms in a fifth viewing area on the display.

50. (Previously Presented) The system as recited in Claim 42 wherein the computer program:

selects either a microglossary panel, a term facet panel, a relations facet panel or a term phrase editor panel; and

displays the selected panel in a second viewing area on the display.

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51. (Withdrawn) A method for displaying and creating relationships between different medical sources comprising:

selecting a medical concept displayed on a display device;

displaying another medical concept related to the selected medical concept;

displaying a billing code from a first medical source associated with the selected medical concept; and

displaying a medical code from a second medical source that is different from the first medical source and is associated with the selected medical concept.

52. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 51, wherein the first medical source comprises at least one of International Statistical Classification of Disease and Related Health Problems (ICD) and Physicians' Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) billing codes.

53. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 51, wherein the second medical source comprises at least one of systemized nomenclature medical reference terminology (SNOMED RT), MeSH, UMLS CUI, and pharmacy terminology.

54. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 51, further comprising:

receiving a medical concept other than the selected medical concept;

creating an association between the received medical concept and the selected medical concept; and

storing the association between the received medical concept and the selected medical concept in memory.

55. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 54, wherein the received medical concept is a child concept relative to the selected medical concept.

56. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 51, further comprising:  
receiving a medical term;  
creating an association between the received medical term and the selected medical concept;  
storing the association between the term and the selected medical concept in memory.

57. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 56, wherein the received medical term comprises one of a synonym, consumer term, grammatical variant, abbreviation, misspelling, truncation, phrase, and a code modifier.

58. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 56, further comprising storing the received medical term in a glossary comprising terms.

59. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 51, further comprising:  
receiving input defining a new taxonomy, the taxonomy comprising a hierarchy of medical information; and  
storing the input in memory.

60. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 51, further comprising:  
receiving an inquiry;  
searching a source comprising the medical concept for the inquiry; and  
displaying one or more medical concepts related to the inquiry.

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61. (Currently Amended) A method for interfacing with a multi-level data structure comprising the steps of:

selecting a medical concept object stored in the multi-level data structure;  
displaying a first image comprising the selected medical concept object;  
displaying one or more second images, each second image comprising a parent medical concept object of the selected medical concept object;

displaying a first graphical element representing an association between each second image to the first image;

if the selected concept object has one or more child medical concept objects, displaying one or more third images, each third image comprising one of the child medical concept objects of the selected medical concept object, and displaying a second graphical element representing an association between each third image and the first image; and

if the selected concept object has one or more lateral medical concept objects, displaying one or more fourth images, each fourth image comprising a lateral medical concept object of the selected concept object, and displaying a third graphical element representing an association between each fourth image and the first image; and

receiving input for one of:

modifying a relationship between two or more concept objects;  
removing a relationship between two or more concept objects;  
creating a relationship between two or more concept objects; and  
creating new concept objects.

62. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 61, wherein the selected medical concept comprises a medical term from one of [[of]] International Statistical Classification of Disease and Related Health Problems (ICD), systemized nomenclature medical reference terminology (SNOMED RT), and MeSH.

63. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 61, further comprising displaying a billing code from a medical database associated with the selected medical concept.

64. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 61, further comprising displaying a medical code from a medical database associated with the selected medical concept.

65. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 61, further comprising displaying a medical procedure associated with the selected medical concept.

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66. (New) A method for interfacing with a multi-level data structure comprising:

receiving a selection of a first concept;

in response to receiving the selection, displaying a first concept object in a central region of an area, the first concept object corresponding to the selected first concept;

displaying one or more second concept objects in a radial manner relative to the first concept object such that the one or more other second concept objects are positioned outside the central region occupied by the first concept object; and

receiving input for one of:

modifying a relationship between two or more concept objects;

creating a relationship between two or more concepts objects;

removing a relationship between two or more concept objects; and

creating a new concept object.

67. (New) The method of Claim 66, further comprising:

in response to a selection of the concept objects, displaying additional information corresponding to the concept objects.

68. (New) The method of Claim 66, wherein the first concept object is part of a first nomenclature and the one or more second concept objects are part of one or more second nomenclatures.

69. (New) The method of Claim 66, further comprising displaying windows adjacent to the area for receiving input of at least one of modifying, creating, and removing a relationship between two or more concept objects.

70. (New) The method of Claim 69, further comprising displaying the one or more of the new concept objects in a radial manner relative to the first concept object.

71. (New) The method of Claim 66, further comprising displaying one or more panels comprising work space adjacent to the area and for manipulating the concept objects.

72. (New) The method of Claim 66, allowing each concept object to be dragged to another portion of the area for modifying the dragged concept object.

73. (New) The method of Claim 66, in response to a selection of the one or more second concept objects, changing the selected second concept to the first concept object and re-displaying a new set of second concept objects.

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74. (New) A multi-level data structure system comprising:

- a computer;
- a display communicably connected to the computer;
- a memory communicably connected to the computer for storing the two or more nomenclatures;
- a computer program resident on the computer for:
  - mapping a first concept object of to an area on the display;
  - mapping one or more second concept objects to the area and along a perimeter that circumscribes the first concept object;
  - receiving input for creating a new concept object having a relationship with an existing concept object;
  - associating the relationship with a symbol;
  - mapping the new concept object to the area; and
  - mapping the symbol to the area and between the new concept object and one of a first concept object and a second concept object.

75. (New) The system of Claim 74, wherein the first concept object is part of a first nomenclature and the second concept objects are part of one or more second nomenclatures different from the first nomenclature.

76. (New) The system of Claim 74, wherein the computer program supports dragging of concept objects to various portions of the area.

77. (New) The system of Claim 74, wherein the program, in response to a selection of the one or more second concept objects, changes the selected second concept to the first concept object and re-displays a new set of second concept objects.

78. (New) The system of Claim 74, wherein the program displays one or more panels comprising work space adjacent to the area and for displaying information in connection with concept objects.